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DE RUEHB#0839 1700503
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P 190503Z JUN 09
FM USEU BRUSSELS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO RUEHZG/NATO EU COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHPL/AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS PRIORITY
RUEHNR/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RHMFISS/CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
RUEHSW/USDAO BERN SZ JUN WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUEHBS/USDAO BRUSSELS BE PRIORITY
RHMFISS/HQ USAFRICOM STUTTGART GE PRIORITY
RUEHCP/USDAO COPENHAGEN DA PRIORITY
RHMFISS/HQ USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GE PRIORITY
RUEHLI/USDAO LISBON PO PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/CJCS WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUEHLO/USDAO LONDON UK PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEHMD/USDAO MADRID SP PRIORITY
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEHNR/USDAO NAIROBI PRIORITY
RHMFISS/CNO WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEHNC/USDAO NICOSIA PRIORITY
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RUEHNY/USDAO OSLO NO PRIORITY
RUEHNO/USDELMC BRUSSELS BE PRIORITY
RUEHOT/USDAO OTTAWA CA PRIORITY
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUEHFR/USDAO PARIS FR PRIORITY
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY
RUEHPG/USDAO PRAGUE EZ PRIORITY
RUZBCAA/NAVCENT INTEL MANAMA BA PRIORITY
RUEHRO/USDAO ROME IT PRIORITY
RUEHSM/USDAO STOCKHOLM SW PRIORITY
RUEHTC/USDAO THE HAGUE NL PRIORITY
RUEHTH/USDAO ATHENS GR PRIORITY
RUEHRL/USDAO BERLIN GE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L USEU BRUSSELS 000839

SIPDIS

PASS TO NAVCENT POLAD

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/18/2019
TAGS: MOPS MARR PREL EWWT XW XF EUN
SUBJECT: EU LENGTHENS COUNTER-PIRACY FORCE MANDATE

Classified By: Pol M-C Christopher Davis for reasons 1.4(b) and (d).

¶1. (C) On June 15, EU foreign ministers approved an extension of the EU counter-piracy Operation ATALANTA's mandate until December 13, 2010. According to the EU's official public statement announcing the extension, the decision was taken with a view to facilitating future force generation for the EU naval mission, which currently numbers 13 ships, of which 11 are surface combatants, supported by three maritime patrol aircraft. The operation is mandated to escort World Food Program shipping, provide a deterrence presence, and intervene in the event of an attack on merchant vessels. The EU's agreement with Kenya allows for the handover of pirate suspects to the Kenyan government, and after agreeing in May to extend the operation's area of responsibility to the Seychelles, the EU is now close to an agreement with the Seychelles to prosecute captured pirates.

MURRAY